

Pandemic Flu Planning: Use of a Local Medical Reserve Corps

New Jersey Health Officers Assn.
Pandemic Flu Program
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Manalapan Township



“Established” 2002

National Recognition (grant) 2003

150 members – 65 nurses, 26 other HCWs

Integrated into County and State MRCs

CERT – 20 hour training program, local resources

National, state, county and municipal activities & response

Division of Consumer Affairs Licensee Registries



NJ Influenza Pandemic Plan

“Response components will:” (p.15)

- Limit Burden of Disease
- Minimize Social Disruption
- Reduce Economic Loss

Potential Local MRC Uses:

- Hot lines, public information, electronic communications
 - For public and emergency responders, reverse 911, basic information on disease, universal respiratory precautions, community impacts including travel restrictions and service disruptions, rationale on response decisions.
- Maintenance of persons in quarantine and/or isolation
 - Medical, emotional, social and housebound issues
- Assistance in shelters
- Operation of “non-traditional care centers”
 - Relieve over-burdened hospitals, well care v sick care
- Assist PH staff with epidemiological investigations
 - Free up critical staff for higher level disease control activities

Potential Local MRC Uses:

- Distribution of Medications
 - Prophylaxis or treatment, assist with local management of SNS
- Administration of Vaccinations
 - Manage post vaccination issues
- Increase ability to communicate with special needs populations and facilities and health care service providers
 - Nursing homes, assisted living facilities, group homes, medical offices, pharmacies
- Populate Emergency Response Annexes
 - Shelter or morgue operations, traffic control

Potential Local MRC Uses:

- Laboratory couriers
- Increase ability to measure local impact and verify essential services are operational
 - A road presence as traffic restriction permits
- Coordinate delivery of mental health services
 - County and State plans
- Provide rehab services to other first responder agencies
 - On-site support services for overburdened local resources